

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 SR-02 ORM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 DPW-01 IO-13

/147 W

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R 51045Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0862

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 3997

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BD, PK, IN

SUBJECT: INDO-PAK AGREEMENT - REPATRIATION OF BENGALLEES

REF: DACCA 3980

1. WE UNDERSTAND FROM ICRC DELEGATION CHIEF JEAN COURVOISIER THAT HIS ORGANIZATION HAS IDENTIFIED ONLY 155,000 BENGALLEES WHO HAVE EXPRESSED INTENTION TO RETURN FROM PAKISTAN TO BANGLADESH. BDG OFFICIALS ESTIMATE RUN A GREAT DEAL HIGHER. HOWEVER, MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EAST ASIA, PACIFIC AND AMERICANS SHAMSUL SLAM TOLD JAMES BARTLEMAN, ACTING CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER SEPTEMBER 4 THAT THE BDG UNOFFICIALLY ACCEPTS THE ICRC ESTIMATE.

2. BARTLEMAN FURTHER REPORTS THAT SHAMSUL ALAM BELIEVES MOVEMENT OF BENGALLEES FROM PAKISTAN TO BANGLADESH WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL THE BDG AND GOP DECIDE EXACTLY WHICH NON-LOCALS WILL LEAVE BANGLADESH FOR PAKISTAN. BARTLEMAN ALSO UNDERSTANDS THAT THE BDG IS STILL INSISTING ON THE RIGHT TO SCREEN THE APPLICATIONS OF ALL THEIR CITIZENS WHO WISH TO RETURN FROM PAKISTAN. IF THE BDG STICKS ON THIS POINT
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A CLEARANCE PROCEDURE COULD TAKE MONTHS. ACCORDING TO BARTLEMAN
THERE IS, HOWEVER, SUFFICIENT PRESSURE FROM BOTH THE
INDIANS AND DOMESTICALLY TO INSURE THAT BDG DOES NOT UNDERTAKE
THIS TIME-CONSUMING TASK.
NEWBERRY

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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